

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 STOCKH 02206 241013Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 INR-07 PA-02 PRS-01 /023 W  
-----241020Z 019186 /14

P R 240914Z MAY 77  
FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM  
TO USINFO WASHDC PRIORITY  
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 672

UNCLAS STOCKHOLM 2206

USIAC

FOR: IOP/M, IEU

E.O. 11652: N/A  
SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION: NOTRE DAME SPEECH

1. MODERATE SVENSKA DAGBLADET MAY 24: "JIMMY CARTER'S INAUGURATION SPEECH CAN BE SAID TO HAVE BEEN A RATHER UNSUCCESSFUL ATTEMPT TO IMITATE JOHN F. KENNEDY AND HIS STRIKING SLOGANS IN HIS FIRST SPEECH AS PRESIDENT.... CARTER HAS HAD TO BEAR CONSIDERABLE CRITICISM, NOT LEAST FOR FOREIGN POLICY STATEMENTS WHICH HAVE SURPRISED AND CONFUSED. BUT CARTER HAS GROWN FAST.... WITNESS NOT THE LEAST THE SUCCESSES HE HAD AT THE ECONOMIC AND MILITARY SUMMIT MEETING IN LONDON. WE HAVE NEW PROOF OF THIS IN THE SPEECH HE HELD IN SOUTH BEND, INDIANA, ON SUNDAY. HE MADE NOT ONLY A WEIGHTY CONTRIBUTION IN THE DEBATE ABOUT THE MIDDLE EAST, WHICH TOOK A NEW TURN AFTER THE SENSATIONAL ELECTION RESULTS IN ISRAEL. HE DEVOTED HIMSELF ALSO TO A PARTLY CRITICAL ANALYSIS OF AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY AFTER THE WAR AND IN WORDS MARKED BY HUMANENESS, WARMTH AND PRECISION, DREW THE OUTLINES OF A NEW ONE."

2. SVENSKA DAGBLADET CONTINUES, AFTER REFERRING TO CARTER STATEMENT "WE ARE NOW FREE FROM INORDINATE FEAR OF COMMUNISM..." "(THE SPEECH) IS CHARGED WITH MEANINGS WHICH  
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CERTAINLY WILL GIVE RISE TO MANY OPPOSING COMMENTS. IN CERTAIN RESPECTS CARTER MAKES IT ALL TOO EASY FOR HIMSELF. WHAT WOULD HAVE HAPPENED, FOR EXAMPLE, WITH EUROPE IF THE US HAD NOT FELT THE COMMUNIST THREAT SO STRONGLY THAT IT LED IN BUILDING NATO, THE WESTERN DEFENSE ALLIANCE, AFTER WHICH THE GROWING COMMUNIST BLOC DID NOT DARE TO SEEK TO MOVE THE SOVIET POSITIONS YET FARTHER WESTWARD?.... THE BASIC

THOUGHT IN THE SPEECH WAS HOWEVER THAT WE LIVE IN A NEW WORLD  
AND THAT IT DEMANDS A NEW AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY.... IT IS,  
AS ONE SAYS IN THE US, A TALL ORDER. THAT THE SPEECH WILL  
ATTRACT GREAT ATTENTION--AND IN MANY PLACES, HOPE--  
IS CERTAIN."

3. LIBERAL DAGENS NYHETER, NOTING CARTER'S AWARD OF AN  
HONORARY DEGREE ALONG WITH OTHERS WHO SUPPORTED HUMAN RIGHTS,  
"TWO OF THEM FROM COUNTRIES COUNTED AMONG THE US'S CLOSEST  
ALLIES," COMMENTS MAY 24: "EVEN IF THE ASSESSMENTS DIFFER ABOUT  
CARTER'S FIRST MONTHS AS PRESIDENT, UNIT IS GREAT ON ONE THING:  
HE HAS AN UNBEATABLE FEELING FOR SYMBOLIC POLITICS."

4. DAGENS NYHETER CONTINUES: "...IN BACK OF THE REHETORIC, WHICH  
UNFORTUNATELY BECOMES MORE GRANDIOSE AND MORE POMPOUS WITH  
CARTER, IS MUCH WHICH INDICATES MORE A CONTINUATION RATHER THAN  
A RENOVATION OF THE TRADITIONAL FOREIGN POLICY.... THERE IS  
NO REASON TO QUESTION CARTER'S PERSONAL SINCERITY.... BUT IT IS  
DOUBTFUL IF A POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC SUPERPOWER AS THE US  
REALLY CAN LEAD A MORALISTIC POLICY. CARTER HAS ALREADY MADE  
EXCEPTIONS IN HIS CHOICE OF FRIENDS...THE LATEST EXAMPLE IS IRAN  
WHERE FOREIGN MINISTER VANCE VISITED RECENTLY WITHOUT EXPRESSING  
DISSATISFACTION WITH THE SHAH'S POWER REGIME. AND ABOVE ALL  
CARTER DOES NOT WANT TO SEE THE PROBLEMATIC ECONOMIC RELATIONSHIPS.  
AT THE SAME TIME AS HE CONDEMNS CRIMES AGAINST HUMAN RIGHTS  
IN SEPARATE COUNTRIES,HE BELIEVES IN IMMEDIATE POSITIVE  
RESULTS FROM INCREASED TRADE AND A GREATER ECONOMIC  
ENGAGEMENT BY THE WEST IN POOR COUNTRIES. ALL TOO OFTEN  
IT IS JUST SUCH CONTACTS WHICH GO HAND IN HAND WITH  
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OPPRESSION."  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, SPEECHES, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
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**Disposition Event:**  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Message ID:** 6c43d18a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** MEDIA REACTION: NOTRE DAME SPEECH  
**TAGS:** PFOR, SOPN, SW, US, (CARTER, JIMMY)  
**To:** USIA  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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